

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE LIBRARY COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Library Commission convened in a regular session at 7:02 p.m. on Monday, February 11, 2013 at Katy Geissert Civic Center Library.

It was noted that Commissioner Wasserman submitted his letter of resignation on February 11, 2013 from the Library Commission and was present at this meeting as a citizen.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Haussmann, Perkins, Ravine,
Ross*, Wengrow, and Chairperson Sargent.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Librarian Theyer.

*Commissioner Ross arrived at 7:10 p.m.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Perkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Ravine, moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. LIBRARY COMMISSION / CITY COUNCIL JOINT MEETING OF JANUARY 8, 2013

MOTION: Commissioner Perkins moved to approve the January 8, 2013 Library Commission and City Council joint meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Wengrow seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5B. LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING OF JANUARY 14, 2013

Corrections were offered as follows: Page 3, 6E, paragraph 2, "**MOTION:** Commissioner Perkins seconded the motion;" and Page 3, 7B, paragraph 1, line 4 "...there are any copyright issues before moving forward..."

MOTION: Commissioner Perkins moved for the approval of the January 14, 2013 Library Commission meeting minutes as amended. Commissioner Wengrow seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6A. FRIENDS OF THE TORRANCE LIBRARY

City Librarian Theyer announced that at their last meeting City Council accepted and appropriated over \$48,000 in donations from Friends.

6B. YOUTH COUNCIL

The Commission welcomed Youth Council members Shiloh Schatzkamer from South High School, Anna Spallino from South High School, and Arielle Stephenson from Torrance High School. Members reported that the Youth Council recently formed a committee for the Library podcast.

Commissioner Ross arrived at 7:10.

Commissioner Wasserman read and entered into record his February 11, 2013 letter of resignation from the Library Commission due to his recent appointment to California's Fair Political Practices Commission.

7C. PODCASTING REPORT

This item was taken out of order.

Former Commissioner Wasserman stated that he and his brother would continue to assist with the podcasting project. He noted that they have some but need more material to move forward with 10-12 episodes to go between the "bookends" prepared by City Librarian Theyer. He recommended that the Youth Council committee start out by developing a sample prototype to determine if adjustments are necessary.

Youth Council members discussed their ideas to develop two-to-three minute videos on the summary, theme, important aspects, and analysis of core curriculum high school reading. They stated that there are members who have good filming equipment and Mr. Wasserman offered to provide his assistance if needed.

6C. ADVOCACY LETTER SCA-7 WOLK

City Librarian Theyer requested that the Commission consider supporting a new bill SCA-7 WOLK that seeks to lower the local vote threshold for public library taxes and construction bonds from the current two-thirds vote to 55%. She noted that a press release from California Library Association (CLA) and a draft letter were included in attachments.

MOTION: Commissioner Wengrow moved for the Library Commission to support SCA-7 WOLK. Commissioner Ross seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Wengrow moved that the Library Commission send the draft letter of support for SCA-7 to State Senator Wolk as presented. Commissioner Ravine seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

6D. ATTENDANCE AT SOUTHERN CPLA WORKSHOP, MARCH 2

City Librarian Theyer received confirmation that Commissioner Ravine and Chairperson Sargent would be attending the March 2, 2013 CPLA workshop at Whittier Public Library. She requested that attendees register themselves and apply for reimbursement.

6E. ATTENDANCE AT DAYS IN THE DISTRICT, FEBRUARY

City Librarian Theyer expressed appreciation to Commissioners Ravine, Ross, and Chairperson Sargent for meeting with Warren Myers from Senator Lieu's office on February 8, 2013. She reported that she has been unable to make any further appointments and would contact interested Commissioners as appointments become available.

Chairperson Sargent relayed Mr. Myers' interest in State Budget cutbacks and their effect on federal funding.

The Commission was in recess from 7:32 to 7:42 p.m.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7A. OUTREACH REPORT

Commissioner Ross stated that he enjoyed attending a Youth Council meeting and the February 8 meeting with Warren Myers from Senator Lieu's office.

A brief discussion centered on the usefulness of advocating for the Library with State legislators.

Commissioner Perkins stated that she attended the TCTV awards ceremony, a luncheon featuring Youth Council members at the Bartlett Center, and a Library lecture.

Commissioner Ravine stated that he participated in Day in the District at Senator Lieu's office on February 8 as well as the Torrance Rose Float Association award dinner. He mentioned that the library on his recent cruise ship was very active.

Commissioner Wengrow stated that she encouraged members of an organization to donate books to Friends.

Chairperson Sargent shared information about a recent Torrance Adult School Advisory Council meeting and Torrance Historical Society tea.

7B. BUDGET REPORT & ADVOCACY LETTER

City Librarian Theyer reported that the Governor released his budget for the State for FY2013-14, with the \$4.7 million allocated to public libraries in the last year left intact. She noted that attachments include a press release from CLA and draft letter that would be sent to 27 State legislators and Committee members. She pointed out the draft letter has no official figure yet because the formula they use is based on what other states are doing and what the Library has done in the past.

MOTION: Commissioner Wengrow moved for the Library Commission to send a letter supporting public library funding to designated State legislators and various Committee members. Commissioner Ross seconded the motion.

MOTION: Commissioner Wengrow moved to amend the motion to include Governor Brown as a recipient of the letter. Commissioner Ravine seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

Responding to an inquiry from Commissioner Ross, City Librarian Theyer explained that the \$4.7 million was for three public library programs—Public Library

Foundation, Library Services and Technology Act, and California Library Literacy Services Act. She stated that Torrance received no direct funds last year and that all funds went to SCLC. She noted that, because California has now logged a year at zero funding, the required federal match goes up. She noted that several states plan to apply for waivers for the Federal requirement. She explained that Proposition 30 supports local government but has no designated portion directly for libraries.

Commissioner Wengrow suggested visiting legislators from other cities and City Librarian Theyer offered to ask CLA if there are legislators that have not been visited.

MOTION: Commissioner Wengrow moved to send the draft letter in support of public library funding to designated State legislators and various Committee members. Commissioner Ross seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

7C. PODCASTING REPORT

Previously discussed following Item 6B. Mr. Wasserman stated that Commissioners Ross and Wengrow would be reporting on podcasting at future meetings.

8. COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS

8A. TORRANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Commissioner Perkins stated that the Foundation unofficially met on February 2 and that she and former Commissioner Wasserman were present. She stated that, due to the lack of a quorum, they could not take any action.

8B. EDUCATION AND SCHOOL RELATIONS

Commissioner Wengrow discussed her participation in judging nominations for Pegasus awards to Torrance teachers.

8C. LIBRARY CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

City Librarian Theyer reported that the Library is getting ready to launch the video contest component for the Library Centennial. She inquired if any Commissioner would be interested in judging the videos and Commissioner Haussmann indicated that she would like to participate.

9. MONTHLY DIVISION REPORT

City Librarian Theyer noted that the Monthly Division Report was included in agenda materials. She commended staff members for the way they handled medical emergencies at Katy Geissert on February 7, 2013.

She asked for Commissioner support for outreach at the South Bay Council of Government's General Assembly meeting in Carson on February 22 and the Cherry Blossom Festival at Columbia Park on March 9.

10. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

10A. Commissioners and staff welcomed newly appointed Commissioner Haussmann.

10B. Commissioners and staff expressed their appreciation to Mr. Wasserman for his years of service on the Commission and bid him a fond farewell. **10C.** Responding to Commissioner Ross's inquiry, City Librarian Theyer stated that the new e-book collection is being advertised through fliers, brochures, the constant contact mailing list, rotation screens, and City events.

10D. Chairperson Sargent announced a February 20, 2013 Miracle of Living lecture on heart disease.

10E. Commissioner Ravine shared information about the website book.bub.com.

10F. Mr. Wasserman announced a PTA meeting at Towers Elementary on February 28, 2013.

11. ITEMS FOR NEXT LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING

Items for the March 11, 2013 Library Commission meeting agenda were listed and include: Friends, Youth Council, liaison and outreach reports, budget, podcasting update, United for Libraries membership, CPLA Workshop debrief, Day in the District, Henderson Library report, Part-Time Employee Recognition, election of Vice-Chairperson, and e-book program.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:48 p.m., Commissioner Ross moved to adjourn the meeting to March 11, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at Henderson Library. Commissioner Perkins seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Sargent so ordered.

Approved as Submitted March 11, 2013 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
